

Borah Parley Plan Faces Defeat as Harding Rejects It

Tide Turns as President Tells Leaders It Is Premature and Embarrasses His Negotiations Abroad

Vain, Useless, Says Lodge in Debate

Admits Army Is 'Perilously Weak'; Idaho Senator Fears War Inside Year

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Senator Borah's amendment to the naval bill, calling for an international economic and disarmament conference

faces defeat. According to the view of Senate Republican leaders tonight, the plan of the Senator from Idaho has been blocked as the result of to-day's developments.

The tide turned against the amendment in the Senate when it became

known that Senators Curtis and Moses had conferred with the President to-day and that the President had advised them he would write a letter opposing the Borah proposal.

Holds it Premature
The President will take the position the amendment is premature and that it would embarrass the Administration in what it is seeking to do in the in-

ternational situation. It is expected the letter will be addressed to Senator Lodge, Republican leader of the Senate, and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

and came to the conclusion that the amendment would not get more than six Republican votes, those of Berah Brookhart, McNary, Ladd, Capper and Norbeck. All these are members of the farm bloc. Senators Reed and Shields, of the Democratic side, and

Some other Republicans were inclined to support the amendment yesterday, but the knowledge that the Administration is squarely against the Borah plan has weakened it.

Senator Borah himself said on the floor to-day that if advised the amendment would hamper or embarrass the Executive he would give due consideration to that fact.

Secretary of State Hughes had a long conference with the President this

Administration leaders and irreconcilables were active in Senate circles to-day trying to muster forces to head off the Borah proposal. Senator Lodge called in a large number of Republican Senators and they conferred in his

office. It was decided to raise a point of order against the amendment on the ground that it was new legislation proposed on the naval bill and was not in order and could not be considered except by suspension of the rules on a two-third vote.

Senator Poindexter, in charge of the bill, was selected to make the point of order. In the course of the debate to-day, Senator Lodge gave notice that a point of order would be pressed. It is assumed Vice-President Coolidge will hold the point well taken. In the event there will be an appeal from

the ruling of the chair, which will be decided by majority vote. This may be the first test of strength on the amendment.

Debated for Four Hours

The Senate debated the Bore amendment most of the afternoon. The

amendment was not pressed to a vote as Senator Borah said several Senators desired to speak. Moreover, Administration leaders were willing to await the letter of the President. For nearly four hours the discussion went on, and then detailed consideration of

time, the subsidy bill is shunted to one side.

Senator Lodge opposed the amendment on the ground an arms limitation conference would be fruitless and that an economic conference should not be requested by the Senate unless

Senator Borah made much of the distressing conditions abroad, foresaw the danger of another world war, and emphasized the importance to the American people of settling European

Wants Troops Brought Home

In the course of the discussion Senator Borah, who took the position that the United States already was actively participating in the affairs of Europe both as to the reparation commission and

as to American troops on the Rhine, said he believed those troops should be brought home. Senator Reed offered an amendment to the Borah proposition providing for recall of the troops. Mr. Borah said that in so far as he was capable of doing it, he would accept the amendment. But he predicted it would not pass.

Senator Lodge took the floor shortly after noon and spoke more than an hour.

"The provision of the House and the amendment of the Senator from Idaho

He stressed the point that the conduct of our relations with other powers was in the hands of the President.

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and titles, including "The Hon. Mr. Justice" and "The Hon. Mr. Justice".